

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Gregor HAAB et al.

Application No.: New U.S. Application

Filed: September 16, 2003

Docket No.: 117193

For: CONNECTING DEVICE, COVER DEVICE AND DIVIDING ELEMENT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

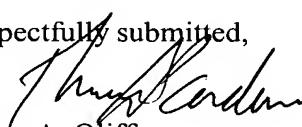
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- 2. Relevance of references 4 and 5 is discussed in the present specification.
- 3. The references 1-3 were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information.
- 4. The present application was filed or entered the U.S. National Stage of the PCT after June 30, 2003. In accordance with the June 11, 2003, Notice waiving the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i), copies of any U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: September 16, 2003

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| <p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p> |
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| Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83) | | US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE | | ATTY DOCKET NO. 117193 | | APPLICATION NO. New U.S. Application | |
|---|----|---|------------|------------------------------------|--|---|-----------|
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary) | | | | | | | |
| | | | | APPLICANT(S) Gregor HAAB et al. | | | |
| | | | | FILING DATE September 16, 2003 | | GROUP | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | | CLASS | SUB CLASS |
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| | 2. | 4,524,978 | 6/25/1985 | MAUSER | | | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
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| | 3. | EP 1 106 770 A1 | 6/13/2001 | EUROPE | | | |
| | 4. | EP 0 940 542 A2 | 9/8/1999 | EUROPE | | | |
| | 5. | WO 02/10544 A1 | 2/7/2002 | WIPO | | | |
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| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) | | | | | | | |
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| Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. | | | | | | | |